

DRAFT MINUTES**ALZHEIMER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Room B, Multi- Agency Complex (MAC), Little Rock, Arkansas

Tuesday, August 23, 2016

The Alzheimer's Advisory Council met Wednesday, August 23, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. in Room B, of the Multi-Agency Complex Building (MAC), Little Rock, Arkansas.

Legislative members in attendance: Senator Linda Collins- Smith and Representative Nelda Speaks, Co-Chair.

Non-legislative Members in attendance: Dr. Becky Adams, Ms. Betsy Arnold, Dr. Steve Barger, Ms. Elizabeth Blankenship, Mr. Craig Cloud, Ms. Rachel Davis, Dr. Stephen Gemmell(via conference call), Dr. Charlie Green, Mr. Steven Guntharp, Ms. Susan Neyman, Dr. Mark Pippenger, Ms. Kathy Short, Mr. Todd Whatley, and Ms. Ashley Wilcox.

Representative Nelda Speaks called the meeting to order.

CONSIDERATION TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES [EXHIBIT C]

Mr. Cloud made a motion to approve the July 6, 2016, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Blankenship, and without objection, the motion carried.

DISCUSSION ON THE IMPACT OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ON FAMILIES

The following individuals discussed the impact of Alzheimer's disease:

- **Ms. Kathy Short, Caregiver**, shared her experience as the daughter of an Alzheimer's patient. She stated Alzheimer's effects patients and families differently. Her mother resided in long- term care for 5 years, and in her opinion, did not receive adequate care. Ms. Short stated the mental stress of long-term care was a steep learning curve for her family, and that the community as a whole is not aware of how to support families dealing with Alzheimer's disease.
- **Ms. Betsy Arnold, Caregiver**, shared her experience as the daughter of an Alzheimer's patient. She stated there is a huge need for caregiver education concerning Alzheimer's patients. Alzheimer's disease has a tremendous impact on families, and families never really recover from its effects. She stated her goal for this advisory council is to improve quality of life for caregivers, as well as review the practice of placing Alzheimer's patients into behavioral units.
- **Mr. Todd Whatley, Elder Law Attorney**, stated he assists families who are dealing with dementia or Alzheimer's disease with legal documents and issues. He also gave an overview of the Miller Trust requirement, which allows individuals to become income eligible under Medicaid to pay for skilled nursing home care when their income exceeds the requirements.
- Rachel Davis noted that 2,000 direct care workers were recently trained to specifically help dementia patients and there is an extensive need for more trained individuals.

**PRESENTATION CONCERNING THE CLINICAL TREATMENT OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE-
[See EXHIBIT E for full report]**

Dr. Mark Pippenger, Neurologist, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS), presented a PowerPoint detailing Alzheimer's disease Management.

Issues Outlined in the Presentation:

- Causes of Dementia
- Diagnosing of Dementia
- Diagnostic Testing in Dementia
- Management of Dementia
- Drug Treatments for Alzheimer Disease
- Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia
- Caregiver Approach
- Medications for Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms

PRESENTATION CONCERNING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH [See EXHIBIT F for full report]

Dr. Steve Barger, Professor of Geriatrics, Neurobiology and Developmental Sciences, UAMS, presented a PowerPoint presentation titled, "Current Ideas about the Causes and Cures for Alzheimer's Disease." Dr. Barger stated Alzheimer's is one of the only diseases among the top 10 causes of death in America that can't be impacted by any of the treatments to prevent, cure or slow its progression. In Arkansas, deaths from Alzheimer's disease increased more than 100% from 2000-2013.

Issues Outlined in the Presentation:

- Micro-pathology of Alzheimer's
- Gross anatomy of an Alzheimer's brain
- MRI of an Alzheimer's brain
- Nerve cell pruning in Alzheimer's disease
- Relay node between nerve cells
- Clinical disease stages
- NIH grant funds and budget

PRESENTATION FROM ARKANSAS STATE POLICE CONCERNING PROCEDURES FOR SILVER ALERTS [See EXHIBIT G for full report]

Captain Steve Coppinger, Criminal Investigation Division, Arkansas State Police, outlined the procedures for Silver Alerts in Arkansas. He stated the Arkansas State Police entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police and the Arkansas Sheriffs Association, with input from the Alzheimer's advocates, to create the Silver Alert system in 2009. He stated to-date; approximately 215 Silver Alerts have been issued, with 63% recovered within 24 hours.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.